

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02074 130905Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
SSM-03 DOE-15 DOEE-00 SOE-02 NRC-05 /073 W
-----118474 130913Z /21

O 130848Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7602
INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CIA IMMEDIATE
SECDEF IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR/ECJ-2 IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2074

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, SY, PINS, SOPN
SUBJECT: US RADIOACTIVE ELECTRONIC DEVICE REPORTEDLY
UNCOVERED BY SARG

1. SYRIAN TELEVISION AND PRESS APRIL 12-13 CARRIED LARGE
FRONTPAGE PICTURES OF ELECTRONIC DEVICE PURPORTEDLY MANUFACTURED
IN US AND EQUIPPED WITH "NUCLEAR CELLS" WHICH WAS DISCOVERED
AT SITE WHERE 12 OR MORE SYRIAN OFFICERS AND CIVILIANS WERE
KILLED BY BOOBYTRAPPED ISRAELI RADIO RECEIVER IN APRIL. PRESS
SAYS DEVICE WAS CONNECTED TO MAIN COAXIAL CABLE LINKING
AMMAN AND DAMASCUS AND HAD CAPABILITY TO TAP INTO TELEPHONE
CONVERSATIONS. REPORTS SAY DEVICE WAS ONE OF TWO FOUND
INSTALLED A FEW DAYS BEFORE ITS DISCOVERY APRIL 1. PRESS
WARNS THAT ISRAEL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CONSEQUENCES OF
THIS "INTERNATIONALLY PROHIBITED" ACTION.

2. WITH DATT, WHO IS EXPERT IN THESE MATTERS, ABSENT WE HAVE
NO CAPABILITY FOR IDENTIFYING DEVICE FROM PRESS PHOTOS. DEVICE
IS CIRCULAR CANISTER APPROXIMATELY TWO FEET IN DIAMETER
AND TWO FEET HIGH FITTED WITH EIGHT RECTANGULAR FINS AT
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LEAST FIVE AND POSSIBLY SIX OF WHICH EXTEND FROM THE
BOTTOM OF THE CANISTER TO ABOUT ONE FOOT ABOVE THE TOP
OF THE CANISTER. THREE OF THE EXTENDED FINS HAVE WHAT
APPEAR TO BE LIFTING HOLES ON UPPER PART OF FIN. TOP
OF CANNISTER HAS FOUR SEMI-RIGID CABLES OR WIRES EXTENDING
ABOUT SIX FEET FROM DEVICE IN GROUP AND LINKED AT THE
END BY A SEPARATOR WHICH KEEPS CABLES ABOUT TWO INCHES

APART FROM EACH OTHER. IN ADDITION THERE APPEAR TO BE
FOUR FLEXIBLE CABLES EXTENDING FROM THE TOP OF THE CANISTER
WHICH WERE APPARENTLY LINKED TO AT LEAST FOUR
RECTANGULAR BOXES OF VARIOUS SIZES. ONE OF THE
BOXES HAS THREE VISABLE TERMINALS AT ONE END TWO OF
WHICH ARE MARKED P3 AND P4. NO OTHER MARKINGS ARE APPARENT.
HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN IDENTIFY DEVICE FROM THIS DESCRIPTION.

3. IT IS POSSIBLE I WILL BE CALLED IN TO RECEIVE PROTEST OR TO
EXPLAIN US INVOLVEMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING
QUESTIONS. IS DEVICE US MANUFACTURE? WAS IT SUPPLIED TO
ISRAEL? DOES IT HAVE RADIOACTIVE COMPONENTS? DOES IT
CONSTITUTE DANGER TO HUMAN LIFE IF IMPROPERLY
HANDLED? I DO NOT FEEL IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO RAISE
MATTER UNLESS I AM CALLED IN. IN ADDITION, SINCE QUESTIONS
MAY BE RAISED PUBLICLY WOULD APPRECIATE PRESS GUIDANCE THIS
SUBJECT. THIS MORNING IN DAMASCUS
WEIZMAN'S DENIALS OF
IDF INVOLVEMENT IN PLANTING THESE DEVICES SOUND PRETTY HOLLOW.
PELLETREAU

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, SURVEILLANCE, MONITORING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DAMASC02074
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780158-1116
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780459/aaaabyeu.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a763a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2975060
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US RADIOACTIVE ELECTRONIC DEVICE REPORTEDLY UNCOVERED BY SARG
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, PINS, SOPN, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a763a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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